

VIRGINIA RECYCLING MARKETS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

March 5, 2009



**10:00 AM
DEQ Piedmont Office
Glen Allen, VA**

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Welcome and Introductions:

Michael Ward, RMDC Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:10 A.M. and welcomed the members of the Council to the meeting. Those attending the meeting introduced themselves.

2. Determination of Quorum

A quorum of appointed members was determined to be present. Those who were present for some or all of the meeting are noted below:

RMDC	Representing	Absent RMDC	
Michael Ward	Chair – Oil Industry	James Sisson	Vice Chair - Recycling
Richard Lerner	Metal Industry	John Garrett Kemper	Glass Industry
Michael Benedetto	Paper Industry	John Kline	Tires
Tom Smith	VACO	Bernard Harris	Waste Industry
Robert Broom	Composting Industry	Vacant	VML
Philip Abraham	Plastics Industry	Vacant	Rural PDC
Jerome Wiley-Segoviah	Pubic At-large	Vacant	Urban PDC
		Vacant	Electronics
		Vacant	Aluminum
Virginia Agencies			
Georgiana Ball	VDGS		
William Bailey	VDOT		
Mike Murphy	VDEQ	William Vehrs	VDBA

Visitors/guests

Pamela Gratton	Fairfax County
Harry Gregori	Environmental Solutions Inc.
Tim Lee	TFC Recycling
Kate Vasquez	Virginia Recycling Association

3/4. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

The Chair asked the committee members to review the meeting agenda. No objections were raised so the proposed agenda was accepted. Minutes from the December 4, 2008 meeting were reviewed with no comments. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

Recycling Legislation Update - 2009 Session

Mr. Murphy handed out a summary and briefly reviewed the Virginia 2009 Recycling Legislation (attached). The following comments were made by the committee.

Ms. Ball indicated that HB 1838 will allow local governments to use General Services for sale of surplus material. This can help local government.

HB 1973 eliminates the special projects grant program from the Litter Control and Recycling Fund grants. This was 5% of the program. 95% will now be used for non-competitive grants, and 5% for administrative costs.

Legislation for television recycling was not introduced this year.

SB930 for DEQ to develop a statewide waste management plan did not pass.

The budget bill included three amendments to spend unused money from the Litter Control and Recycling Fund. Alexandria, Isle of Wight and Henry County received additional funds for public outreach and education. Some of these funds will be used to continue the study of the impact of plastic bags on the environment.

6. Old Business

(a) Vacancy Member Update and New Appointees

Mr. Murphy handed out the current list of the Council membership. Mr. Ward noted that members are only allowed to serve two terms. Mr. Smith, representing VACO, Mr. Ward, representing the oil industry, and Mr. Benedetto, representing the paper industry, have served two terms, and need to be replaced effective July 1. Mr. Ward offered to check with Mr. Harris (waste industry) to see if he is eligible and desires to serve another term. Kelly Davis has been nominated to represent the Electronics Recycling Industry and Toby Edwards for the Rural PDC. Their appointments are being processed. Jerome Wiley-Segoviah introduced himself as the new Public At-large appointee.

Robert Broom has provided valuable service to the Recycling Markets Development Council since July 1, 2005, providing expertise in the area of Organics and Composting and working closely with local governments to increase the amount of organic material recycled. Robert Broom has confirmed his desire to continue working on the RMDC for another term.

Possible candidates for the Urban PDA and future VACO vacancy were discussed. Members will talk to other potential candidates to determine their interest in serving on the RMDC.

(b) Market Focus – Glass Recycling Benefactor Plant

Chairman Ward expressed interest in hearing more information about glass recycling, and the possibility of a new plant to process glass being located in Virginia. He will ask John Garrett Kemper to provide an update and presentation at the June meeting.

7. New Business

(a) Economic Downturn and Recycling Markets

Mr. Benedetto reported that the market for paper is slightly up, but metals is down. Mr. Lerner reported that this was the worst month he has ever seen for metal recycling. Steel mills do not need the steel. The demand is only 30% of what it used to be.

Mr. Broom stated that landfills have been dropping prices, and this is hurting recycling. He would like to see more sludges, biosolids, and food waste composted. The big long term issue we are facing is global warming. Composting reduces carbon emissions and produces carbon credits.

Ms. Gratton reported that Northern Virginia does have some problems, and some facilities are stockpiling recyclable materials which are waiting to be processed.

(b) Outreach to Localities

The VDEQ survey includes a question for respondents to request for assistance from the RMDC. No requests for assistance have been received to date.

(c) Delegate Valentine – Need for Consumer Website

Delegate Valentine expressed an interest and need for a website that consumers and residents can access to get more information about recycling. Council members believed that there was sufficient information on the VDEQ website, and other websites that provides recycling information. VRA also has

information on its web page for consumers. Mr. Segovia suggested information be placed on with Wikipedia web site.

(d) Establish Next Meeting Date and Time

Mr. Gregori invited the Council to meet and tour The Sustainability Park in Chester. The Council agreed to have its next meeting on Wednesday, June 3, 2009 at 10:00 AM. The meeting will be hosted by Mr. Gregori at The Sustainability Park in Chester.

6. Public Comment

Ms. Vasquez gave a presentation summarizing the history and goals of the VRA. She referred the Council to the VRA website, at www.vrarecycles.org for additional information. She also announced and invited the Council to attend the next VRA conference on May 5-6.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 PM.

Attachment

VIRGINIA 2009 RECYCLING LEGISLATION

<http://leg1.state.va.us/lis.htm>

House

HB 1838 **Patron:** Rosalyn R. Dance

Department of General Services; disposition of surplus materials; participation by local public bodies. Authorizes local public bodies to use the services of the Department of General Services' Surplus Property Program. Proceeds from the sale of the surplus property are required to be returned to the local public body minus a service fee, which shall be set at the same rate charged by the Department to state public bodies.

Status: Approved by Governor on 2/25/09

HB 1973 **Patron:** R. Lee Ware, Jr.

Litter Control and Recycling Fund grants. Limits the awarding of grants to localities whose litter prevention and recycling grant applications meet the criteria established by the Department of Environmental Quality in its Guidelines for Litter Prevention and Recycling Grants.

Status: Waiting action by Governor

HB 2177 **Patron:** Kenneth R. Plum

Rechargeable battery recycling. Authorizes localities to ban the disposal of certain rechargeable batteries in any waste-to-energy or solid waste disposal facility within its jurisdiction, provided the locality has implemented a recycling program that is capable of handling all rechargeable batteries generated within its jurisdiction.

Status: Waiting action by Governor

HB 2255 **Patron:** Paul F. Nichols

Solid waste disclosure statements. Eliminates the requirement that applicants for permits issued under the Virginia Waste Management Act provide the social security numbers of their key personnel in disclosure statements that are submitted to the Department of Environmental Quality.

Status: Approved by Governor on 2/23/09

SENATE

SJ 345 Patron: Jill Holtzman Vogel

Resolution; encouraging the increased usage of recycling receptacles. Encourages state and local governments to increase the usage of recycling receptacles at public places and governmental facilities.

Status: Senate and House have agreed to House Substitute

BUDGET BILL

HB 1600 Patron: Lacey E. Putney

Amendments related to recycling.

Item 368 #1c.; Language. *Out of this item, the Department of Environmental Quality shall expend up to **\$10,000** from the Litter Control and Recycling Fund for a one-time cooperative agreement with the City of Alexandria for the purposes of developing and implementing a public information and education project to enhance ongoing litter prevention and recycling programs. Moneys deposited into the Litter Control and Recycling Fund shall be expended for this cooperative agreement out of the amount allocated on July 1, 2008, pursuant to § 10.1-1422.01.C.1."*

Item 368 #2c.; Language. *Out of this item, the Department of Environmental Quality shall expend up to **\$28,000** from the Litter Control and Recycling Fund for a one-time cooperative agreement with Isle of Wight County for the purposes of developing and implementing a public information and education project to enhance ongoing litter prevention and recycling programs. Moneys deposited into the Litter Control and Recycling Fund shall be expended for this cooperative agreement out of the amount allocated on July 1, 2008, pursuant to § 10.1-1422.01.C.1."*

Item 368 #3c.; Language. *Out of this item, the Department of Environmental Quality shall expend up to **\$10,000** from the Litter Control and Recycling Fund for a one-time cooperative agreement with Henry County for the purposes of developing and implementing a public information and education project to enhance ongoing litter prevention and recycling programs. Moneys deposited into the Litter Control and Recycling Fund shall be expended for this cooperative agreement out of the amount allocated on July 1, 2008, pursuant to § 10.1-1422.01.C. 1."*

Explanation. (These amendments require DEQ to utilize an unexpended balance in the Litter Control and Recycling Fund for cooperative agreements with the City of Alexandria, Isle of Wight County and Henry County to enhance an ongoing litter control and recycling education projects.)

Status: **Waiting action by Governor**